

CITY OF TIGARD



2014 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA - DRAFT

GRANT PRIORITIES

Downtown Tigard Brownfield Assessment

Tigard is seeking funds to support site investigations and community planning for productive reuse of sites in the downtown, as well as any priority sites in Tigard's industrial and employment areas. For several years, the City of Tigard and community members have envisioned a more vibrant and prosperous downtown and have developed detailed improvement plans. Progress has been made on implementing these plans with several projects completed, or about to commence. A major challenge to redevelopment, however, has been the need to assess some downtown properties for potential environmental issues. Approximately sixty properties in this area have been identified as contaminated, or potentially contaminated, from previous uses; these are known as potential brownfield properties. Tigard supports the cleanup and revitalization of these properties, and plans to provide incentives to property owners to address brownfield challenges. Request Amount: \$400,000

Tigard/Metzger Farm to School Program

The city is working with the Tigard Tualatin School District and the Oregon Human Development Corporation YouthSource on securing funding for enhanced farm to school operations at Metzger Elementary. Metzger Elementary serves the highest Spanish speaking student body in Tigard and highest percentage of students receiving free and reduced price meals in the district. The Partnership will produce nutritious, local organic greens for low income populations by growing them year-round in a greenhouse at Metzger Elementary School. Request Amount: \$100,000

Fields Economic Development Site

The Fields property, located in Tigard's industrial corridor, includes four contiguous tax lots encompassing just over 42 acres of vacant land. The largest two lots are zoned Industrial Park. The property is bounded on the south by an active rail line and rail car switching yard. On the southwest side of the property runs a privately owned rail.

The Fields has a combination of development challenges including lack of infrastructure, slope, and a variety of permitted land uses. However, the size of the parcels combined and the site's location with close proximity to I-205 and Hwy 217 are assets that make this property marketable. The site is complex and requires a complex solution in order to arrive at a mix of activities that respond to near and long-term market demand as well as the needs of this community.

The City of Tigard is working with private sector partners to refine development scenarios, explore infrastructure financing and encourage development that supports employment. We are currently investigating US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Program funding as a relevant tool.

Promote the Farmers Market in Downtown Tigard

The Tigard Farmers Market is focused on bringing farmers, community and non-profits together in a way that benefits all. The market is seeking additional resources to promote a new location in downtown Tigard to expand producer-to-consumer opportunities in a larger space. Funds are needed for signage including permanent way-finding signs and a kick-off event to promote the new expanded market to the community. Request Amount: \$100,000

Hall Boulevard - Burnham Street to Durham Road

This project will replace, add turn lanes at key intersection, illuminate, add transit stop amenities and fill in the sidewalk gap along Hall Boulevard from Downtown Tigard to Durham Road. Request Amount: \$7,100,000

Highway 217 Interchange with 72nd Avenue

Evaluate and develop a conceptual design to address the transportation issues in the area of the interchange of Highway 217 with 72nd Avenue. This project will focus on the ramp terminals, cross street and streets intersecting 72nd Avenue. Request Amount: \$800,000

Safe Routes to Schools

The city has identified a future vision to become “The most walkable community in the Pacific Northwest where people of all ages and abilities enjoy healthy and interconnected lives.” A key aspect of that vision is to ensure that children have safe routes to walk to school. The incomplete sidewalk connection on SW Murdock from SW 103rd to a sharp curve in front of Templeton Elementary prevents children from walking to school safely. Request amount: \$2,000,000.

Police Interoperable Communications

Because of federal mandates, the regional dispatch center in Washington County will be moving from an analog communications network to 800mhz digital format. To accommodate this transition, all radios operated by first responders in the region must be replaced by 2018 in order to communicate with the dispatch center. Our current radios will be inoperable as of 2018.. Thus, Tigard Police Department would need to replace 99 portable and 56 mobile devices. While expensive, the digital format will provide some benefits, including greater capacity and flexibility for transmitting data and allow for seamless communications between the city, county and other first responders on the network. Request Amount: \$250,000

Police Automated License Plate Recognition Equipment

Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) is a surveillance method that uses optical character recognition on images to read vehicle registration plates. Automated license plate recognition would be of great value to Tigard because of the major state highways intersecting the city as well as having

the state's largest shopping mall within city limits. Tigard has some of the busiest roads and highest traffic counts in the State of Oregon and could employ ALPR to track stolen vehicles, amber alert suspects and drivers operating on a suspended license. Washington Square, Oregon's largest shopping mall, is a target of frequent car theft and stolen vehicle "drops" are prevalent. The implementation of the license plate recognition technology will maximize the efficiency of a police force that has been reduced because of budget cuts. Request Amount: \$238,000

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE CITY OF TIGARD

Pacific Highway (99W)/Barbur Boulevard High Capacity Transit Alternative Analysis

An alternatives analysis and preliminary engineering study to determine the best high capacity connection to provide transportation options to connect downtown Portland, Tigard, King City, Tualatin and Sherwood. Reductions in automobile trips will reduce roadway congestion and pollution, reduce accidents and set the groundwork for efficient development along the transit line.

Total Cost: \$11.4 million; Federal Request: \$1 million

Lake Oswego-Tigard Water Partnership

In August 2008, the cities of Lake Oswego and Tigard formally endorsed a partnership agreement for sharing drinking water resources and costs. Lake Oswego's water supply system is near capacity, and key facilities need expansion and upgrades. Tigard residents need a secure, dependable water source. Both cities want to keep water affordable for their customers and sharing the cost of new infrastructure to serve both communities does that. Total Cost: \$240 million

Columbia River Crossing Project

The City of Tigard strongly supports the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) Project, which is a long-term, comprehensive solution to problems on Interstate 5 near the Columbia River. The I-5 corridor is the backbone of a network of roads that provide access to the region, which is more susceptible to long-term economic losses from congestion than other areas because of its ties to trade.

POLICY ITEMS

Support Robust Transportation Reauthorization Bill

Congress should develop a comprehensive legislative effort to create jobs by providing robust funding for bridges, highways, mass transit and other local infrastructure needs.

FY 2015 Program Levels

Maintain adequate funding levels for TIGER, CDBG, HOME, BYRNE, COPS, EDA, Assistance to Firefighters Funding.

Protect Municipal Bonds

The City strongly supports protecting tax exempt municipal bonds from being eliminated or limited. Since the federal income tax was instituted in 1913, interest earned from municipal bonds issued by state and local governments have been exempt from federal taxation. These bonds are the primary

financing mechanism for state and local infrastructure projects, with three-quarters of the infrastructure projects in the U.S. built by state and local governments, and with over \$3.7 trillion in outstanding tax-exempt bonds, issued by 30,000 separate government units. Local governments save an average of 25 to 30 percent on interest costs with tax-exempt municipal bonds as compared to taxable bonds. This is true because investors are willing to accept lower interest on tax-exempt bonds in conjunction with the tax benefit. If the federal income tax exemption is eliminated or limited, states and localities will pay more to finance projects, leading to less infrastructure investment, fewer jobs, and greater burdens on citizens who will have to pay higher taxes and fees.

Secure a Tigard Zip Code

Tigard staff is investigating the process to secure a distinct Tigard mailing address, instead of the current Portland designation.

EPA Regulatory Concerns and Unfunded Mandates

The City opposes legislative or regulatory initiatives that undermine local government decision making and contributes to reduction in our workforce. The partnership with federal policy makers should recognize local government roles and not preempt city authority on issues such as land use, rights of way and other local functions.